

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a substrate having a first surface, wherein the first surface of the substrate contains a first plurality of fasteners of one of a plurality of hook and loop mechanisms; and
a cable fastener comprising a second plurality of fasteners of the one of the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms, wherein the second plurality of fasteners is configured to engage the first plurality of fasteners, the cable fastener is separate from the substrate, and the second plurality of fasteners is not configured to engage any portion of the cable fastener,[[; and]]
wherein the cable fastener is further shaped to define:
a variable-width opening,
an elongated body having a predetermined width,
a head portion at one end of the body, the head portion having a width greater than the predetermined width,
the head defining an opening through which the elongated body of the cable fastener may pass be pulled.
2. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more mushroom-shaped stems.
3. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more pine-tree-shaped stems.
4. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more hooks.
5. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more loops.
6. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, wherein the substrate is planar.

7. (previously presented) The apparatus recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
a cable routing apparatus, the cable routing apparatus comprising a rigid frame.
8. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 7, wherein the frame includes at least one planar surface.
9. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 7, wherein:
the substrate includes a second surface substantially opposite the first surface; and
the second surface of the substrate is coupled to the frame.
10. (canceled)
11. (**Currently Amended**) A method of managing cable, comprising:
supporting one or more cables with a cable fastener, the cable fastener being shaped to be capable of defining a variable-width opening, wherein the cable fastener contains one of a plurality of hook and loop mechanisms;
releasably engaging the cable fastener to a substrate, wherein the cable fastener is separate from the substrate and the substrate contains another of the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms; and
providing a rigid frame capable of accommodating a plurality of fiber cables.
12. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more mushroom-shaped stems.
13. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more pine-tree-shaped stems.
14. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more hooks.
15. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms includes one or more loops.

16. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the substrate is planar.
17. (cancelled)
18. (previously presented) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the frame includes at least one planar surface.
19. (previously presented) The method recited in Claim 11, further comprising: coupling a second surface of the substrate to the frame, wherein the second surface is substantially opposite the first surface of the substrate.
20. (**Currently Amended**) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the cable fastener is further shaped to define:
an elongated body having a predetermined width; and
a head portion at one end of the body, the head portion having a width greater than the predetermined width;
the head defining an opening through which the elongated body of the cable fastener ~~tie wrap may pass be pulled~~.
21. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the cables comprise one or more fiber optic cables.
22. (original) The method recited in Claim 11, wherein the cables comprise one or more electrical cables.
23. (**Currently Amended**) An apparatus comprising:
a means for supporting one or more cables, wherein the means for supporting one or more cables includes a cable fastener means;
a means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means, said means for releasably engaging including at least one of
one or more mushroom-shaped stems,
one or more pine-tree-shaped stems,

one or more hooks, and

one or more loops; and

a cable routing apparatus comprising a frame means for supporting one or more fiber cables configured to ~~receive~~ releasably engage the means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means.

24. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a means for supporting one or more cables, wherein the means for supporting one or more cables includes a cable fastener means;

a means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means, the means for releasably engagement includes one or more mushroom-shaped stems; and

a cable routing apparatus comprising a frame means for supporting one or more fiber cables configured to ~~receive~~ releasably engage the means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means.

25. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a means for supporting one or more cables, wherein the means for supporting one or more cables includes a cable fastener means;

a means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means, the means for releasably engagement includes one or more pine-tree-shaped stems; and

a cable routing apparatus comprising a frame means for supporting one or more fiber cables configured to ~~receive~~ releasably engage the means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means.

26. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a means for supporting one or more cables, wherein the means for supporting one or more cables includes a cable fastener means;

a means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means, the means for releasably engagement includes one or more hooks; and

a cable routing apparatus comprising a frame means for supporting one or more fiber cables configured to ~~receive~~ releasably engage the means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means.

27. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:
a means for supporting one or more cables, wherein the means for supporting one or
more cables includes a cable fastener means;
a means for releasably engaging the cable fastener means, the means for releasably
engagement includes one or more loops; and
a cable routing apparatus comprising a frame means for supporting one or more fiber
cables configured to ~~receive~~ releasably engage the means for releasably engaging
the cable fastener means.
28. (previously presented) The apparatus recited in Claim 23, further comprising:
a substrate means.
29. (canceled)
30. (previously presented) The apparatus recited in Claim 23, further comprising:
a substrate means; and
a means for coupling the substrate means to the frame means.
31. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 23, wherein the cable fastener means
further comprises:
a means for encircling the one or more cables such that each of the one or more cables is
squeezed into contact with at least one other of the one or more cables.
32. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 23, wherein the one or more cables
comprise one or more fiber optic cables.
33. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 23, wherein the one or more cables
comprise one or more electrical cables.
34. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus for managing cable, comprising:
a cable routing apparatus comprising a rigid frame capable of accommodating a plurality
of cables, the frame having at least one planar surface;

a planar substrate having a first surface and a second surface, the second surface being substantially opposite the first surface, the first surface of the substrate containing a plurality of engagement mechanisms, the second surface of the substrate being coupled to the planar surface of the frame; and
a tie wrap containing loops capable of engaging the engagement mechanisms of the substrate, wherein the tie wrap is separate from the substrate and is capable of being releasably engaged to the substrate by means of a hook and loop connection, and wherein the tie wrap is shaped to define:
an elongated body having a predetermined width; and
a head portion at one end of the body, the head portion having a width greater than the predetermined width, and defining an opening through which the elongated body of the tie wrap may pass be pulled.

35. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 34, wherein the hooks are mushroom-shaped stems.

36. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 34, wherein the plurality of cables comprises a plurality of fiber optic cables.

37. (original) The apparatus recited in Claim 34, wherein the plurality of cables comprises one or more metal cables.

38. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a substrate having a first surface, wherein the first surface of the substrate contains a first plurality of fasteners of one of a plurality of hook and loop mechanisms; and
a cable fastener comprising a second plurality of fasteners of the one of the plurality of hook and loop mechanisms, wherein the cable fastener is configured to encircle one or more cables while being removably coupled to said substrate using said second plurality of fasteners,

wherein the cable fastener is further shaped to define:

a variable-width opening,

an elongated body having a predetermined width,

a head portion at one end of the body, the head portion having a width greater than the predetermined width,

the head defining an opening through which the elongated body of the cable fastener may pass.